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REMARKS

Claims 1 through 6 were presented for examination in the present application. The instant amendment cancels claims 1 through 6 without prejudice and adds new claims 7 through 27. Thus, claims 7 through 27 are presented for consideration upon entry of the instant amendment.

On June 9, 2006, Applicant submitted an IDS 1449 listing two Chinese language documents, namely 2093219 and 2395003. Applicant did not include a translation, however an English copy of the International Search Report was submitted and indicates the references are categorized as "A", i.e. documents defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance. Under MPEP §609.04(a), when the information listed on an IDS is not in the English language, but was cited in a search report, the requirement for a concise explanation of relevance can be satisfied by submitting an English-language version of the search report or action which indicates the degree of relevance found by the foreign office. Applicant has fulfilled this requirement and respectfully requests the Examiner provides a copy of the IDS 1449 indicating the two Chinese references, 2093219 and 2395003, have been considered.

Claim 1 stands objected to as being indefinite since there is no antecedent basis for the recitation "the teeth" in claim 1. Applicant is canceling claim 1, and as such, the objection is rendered moot.

Claim 1 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter of the invention. Applicant is canceling claim 1, and as such, the rejection is rendered moot.

Claims 1 through 6¹ were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,119,495 to Loreti (hereinafter "the Loreti patent"). Applicant is

¹ Item 6 of the Office Action states that claims 1 through 4 are rejected. However, from further reading of the Office

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canceling independent claim 1 and dependent claims 2 through 6; therefore this rejection is rendered moot.

New claims 7 through 27 have been added to point out various aspects of the present application. Support for new claims 7 through 27 can be found in the specification at least at pages 3 through 5. New independent claims 7 and 22 provide several individual features and a combination of features not disclosed or suggested in the Loreti patent.

Independent claim 7 now provides for a key-changeable lock or sub assembly characterized in that insertion of a first key into a locking hole, moves a slide and in turn a blocking piece, in an engaged position therewith, to allow retraction of a locking block and thus rotation of a lock cylinder, retraction of the blocking piece into the lock cylinder, (i) prevents the locking block from moving, and (ii) moves the slide to a disengaged position via a sliding block, and removal of the first key and insertion of a second key moves the slide and varies the relation of the slide and the blocking piece, due to the disengaged position.

Fig 1 is an illustration of a lock in accordance with claim 7. The lock can be reconfigured from a first key operating the lock, to a second key operating the lock, by unlocking the lock with the first key and partially rotating a lock cylinder (2). In particular, a fixed relationship of a blocking piece (3) and a slide (4) can be varied. The first key is then removed and the second key is inserted, thus varying the relationship of slide (4) and blocking piece (3) to match a profile of the second key. Thereafter, the second key can lock and unlock the lock.

The Loreti patent does not disclose or suggest a key-changeable lock or sub assembly characterized in that insertion of a first key into said locking hole... moves said at least one slide to said disengaged position via said sliding block, and removal of said first key and insertion of **a second key moves said at least one slide and varies the**

Action, it is apparent that claims 5 and 6 are also rejected.

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relation of said at least one slide and said blocking piece, due to said disengaged position, as recited in claim 7. Thus, claim 7 is patentably distinguishable over the Loreti patent.

In addition, independent claim 22 now provides for a key-changeable lock wherein a locking block (1) is located at two working positions, and at a first working position, the locking block (1) is not held in a block groove (15) and extends from a lock cylinder (2) to engage a lock housing (9) to prevent rotation of the lock cylinder (2) relative the lock housing (9) and teeth of a blocking piece (3) engage with teeth of a slide (4), and at a second working position, the locking block (1) is held in the block groove (15) and at least partially retracts into the lock cylinder (2) to allow relative rotation and the teeth of the blocking piece (3) disengage from those of the slide (4).

Fig 2 is an illustration of a lock in accordance with claim 22. The function of the locking block (1) is preventing and allowing relative rotation of the lock cylinder (2) with the lock housing (9). The locking block (1) extends from the lock cylinder (2) and engages the lock housing (9) to prevent relative rotation of the two. The lock block (1) can then at least partially retract into the lock cylinder (2) to allow relative rotation of the two.

The Loreti patent provides for a stop bar (23) that does not act as a block to prevent relative rotation of the lock cylinder and lock housing. To the contrary, the stop bar (23) of the Loreti patent acts as a means to engage the locking pins (21) while the lock is being reconfigured. Thus, the Loreti patent does not disclose or suggest a key-changeable lock wherein the locking block... extends from the lock cylinder (2) to engage a lock housing (9) **to prevent rotation of the lock cylinder (2) relative the lock housing (9)** and teeth of a blocking piece (3) engage with teeth of a slide (4), as recited in claim 22. Thus, claim 22 is patentably distinguishable over the Loreti patent.

Claims 8 through 21 depend from claim 7, and claims 23 through 27 depend from claim 22. By virtue of these dependencies, claims 8 through 21 and claims 23 through

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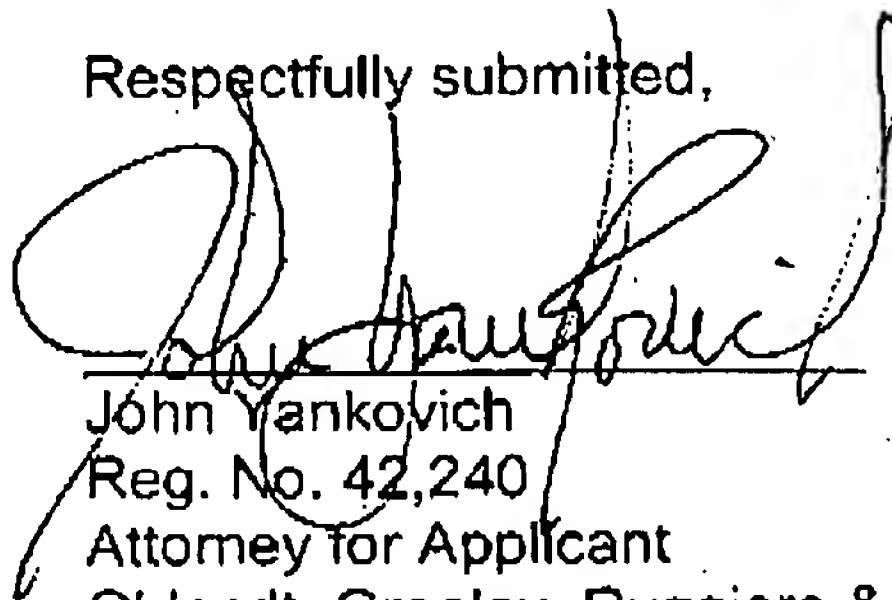
27 are also patentably distinguishable over the Loreti patent.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits that all claims present in this application patentably distinguish over the cited prior art reference. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests favorable reconsideration and withdrawal of the objections and rejections of the claims. Also, Applicant respectfully requests that this application be passed to allowance.

If for any reason the Examiner feels that consultation with Applicant's attorney would be helpful in the advancement of the prosecution, the Examiner is invited to call the telephone number below.

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Respectfully submitted,



John Yankovich

Reg. No. 42,240

Attorney for Applicant

Ohlandt, Greeley, Ruggiero & Perle, L.L.P.

One Landmark Square, 10th floor

Stamford, CT 06901-2682

Tel: (203) 327-4500

Fax: (203) 327-6401